

EN

P-000150/2025

Answer given by Mr McGrath
on behalf of the European Commission
(16.5.2025)

The Commission will not comment on alleged statements that previous Commissioners may make in a private capacity.

Democracy is a founding value of the EU. Elections are at the core of democracy and should be free from any interference. The conduct and the organisation of elections are the competence and responsibility of the Member States, in accordance with their national constitutional and legislative rules, as well as with their international obligations and EU law. National competent authorities and courts have the primary responsibility of ensuring compliance with these rules. The Commission has no comment on the decision by the Romanian constitutional court of 6 December 2024 to annul the first round of the Romanian presidential elections. This is a responsibility of the Member States.

The Commission actively supports Member States, notably through the framework of the European cooperation network on elections¹, which brings together national authorities with responsibilities that are relevant to electoral matters. This allows for exchanges of information and best practices and to discuss challenges. Several EU rules are relevant in national electoral contexts within the EU, such as the Digital Services Act², the Regulation on political advertising³ (which will become fully applicable in October 2025), the General Data Protection Regulation⁴ or the Artificial Intelligence Act⁵.

¹ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/democracy-eu-citizenship-anti-corruption/democracy-and-electoral-rights/european-cooperation-network-elections_en.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32022R2065>.

³ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/900/oj/eng>.

⁴ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2016/679/oj/eng>.

⁵ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1689/oj/eng>.